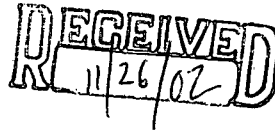


J. Alan Mack  
Associate General Counsel



Via Regular Mail and  
Facsimile (212-637-4429)

November 19, 2002

Mr. Seth Ausubel  
Remedial Project Manager  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region II  
Emergency and Remedial Response Division  
290 Broadway, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007-1866

RE: Request for Information Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601 et seq., re: Berry's Creek Study Area, Bergen County, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. Ausubel:

This will confirm our telephone conversation of this afternoon in which I contacted you regarding the above Information Request, on behalf of both Occidental Chemical Corporation ("OxyChem"), and its indirect parent, Occidental Petroleum Corporation, both of which recently received such Requests.

In response to the Request we are reviewing materials at multiple locations to determine the existence of responsive information. This includes a review of the indices to microfilmed information regarding former Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company facilities which OxyChem acquired in 1986, including a facility at Carlstadt at New Jersey (if any such information exists) which might be relevant to the Request. OxyChem sold the Carlstadt facility in 1987.

In our conversation you granted an extension to OxyChem and Occidental Petroleum to respond, until December 6, 2002. Thank you for your courtesy in granting such extension.

Very truly yours,

JAM/je



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